

# CARRY NO BANNERS

\$2.00 [US]

ISSUE #3

FEATURING: BRAINDANCE  
SECTION 5, SONS OF PRIDE  
TEMPLARS, RED ALERT  
UF AND MUCH, MUCH MORE...





Issue three.....finally! And as usual it took us longer than expected. The majority of reasons are my fault. Hectic work and school schedule, a trip to Germany, a massive reading list, and being glued to the television for World Cup matches. But none the less it all managed to come together. And now a look back on issue two. We once again nearly sold out of all 500 copies (I believe we were 20 shy) and the response was all in the positive. CNB got a great review from "Skinhead Times" as well as other fanzines. On a down note, Maximum Rock N Roll or lets say a particular person at MRR- (LD) had some unpleasant words about CNB. Instead of reviewing the zine, which she said was pretty decent, she slagged SOS BOTE and the Beck's Pistols and went on about how much she hates skinheads and nazis. Fair enough but I thought everybody knew about Beck's Pistols total anti-fascist stance? Guess Not. If one has any doubts about SOS BOTE- read the zine. So one bad review, big deal. Criticism only helps. But the straw that really broke the camels back came in the form of a so-called record review by the same (LD) in MRR. Some could say this is none of my buisness and they may be right, but this type of poor journalistic skill cannot go unaddressed. The matter at hand is the terrible review of the The Bruisers- "Cruisin For A Bruisin". First, a reader ought to expect more of an objective approach from a zine that has been around for such a long time. This type of review is reminiscent of the writing skill found in that (hopefully now extinct) shit bag of a zine "Under Siege" by Justin "Hard Man" Cook. (LD) cannot distance herself from her own personal prejudice and biases, and instead of a music review, the reader suffers through a verbal attack about the CD cover, the thanks list, while (LD) draws her own conclusions about a band she knows nothing about. When I first read this disappointing review the proverb- "Don't judge a book by its cover" came to mind. I'm in no way sticking up for the music, only this type of stereotyping leads to false assumptions and hatred, as do all stereotypes be they against one's sexuality, gender, race, age, or nationality. What's really alarming about a review such as this, is that this same type of rhetoric is found in racist zines that attack anything /anybody that isn't white. The parallel between (LD)'s review and racist propaganda are threateningly similar. For example: she writes "I just detect a whiff of typical working class pro-American Stupidity that I can't relate to", she attempts to completely separate herself from anything that would resemble her description. Through the use of humorous put downs she lightheartedly attempts to sway the reader to regard the band according to the picture she attempts to create. Why does the reader care if she can relate to the release or not? The reader wants to know how it sounds and whether or not they should buy it. What is said about the music?-"Musically, this is pretty decent", now I'm a bit confused. It seems to be the case that after bombarding the reader with her objections to everything but the music, she now says the music is decent? But why would she like this CD if it is all the things she "can't relate to", how can she relate to the music? Instead of tossing around her hatred of the working class (I guess they pay 'em well at MRR) why not simply review the music, after all this is the record reviews section, not the complaints department. This isn't a "fuck MRR" criticism, I'm just concerned that a zine of such stature and influence would allow for this type of personal hatred to overflow into record reviews. Another point about issue two that was brought to our attention was the way we handle our record reviews, mostly my criticisms of the "Broken Heroes" ep. When Perry and I first started CNB, we agreed to be honest about everything, no more middle of the road, "it's decent" or "the music's okay, and I know the band therefore it's great!!" or "the band are all skinheads, and they sing about sta-press and boots--It's a winner", No, we are going to write how we view a release. We attempt to provide more than simply our opinion (as was illustrated in (LD)'s review), if we do not care for something we will give reasons. I refuse to take the subjective stance and say something is bad without providing reasons. We received a couple of letters stating that I was too hard on the band. If a band releases music to the public, then one ought to expect criticism. Because that record is no longer songs that a couple of friends perform, now its in the world to influence how people think, I feel I'm justified to state my case for or against a record. Responsibility is all of ours to take. So many young oi bands or skinhead rock n roll bands pop up, release a 7" or an Lp, spout off politics and are never heard from again. In there absence, the ones that have been around and plan on being around are stuck with the trouble they have caused. And I

think that's why so many people (CNB included) were pissed off at the likes of "Under Siege" and similar offerings because they start making sparks by dragging useless political issues into an already troubled scene. The only other thing that happened to CNB, was that Justin (our third writer) fell off the face of the earth and hasn't been heard from since. If anyone finds him, I'm sure they can trade him for some records or something. Enjoy issue three!!!!

#### STAFF:

Perry (Everything), Ray (somethings), AC (otherthings), and OMI (a little bit of everything).

#### THANKS TO:

Family and friends, all the bands in the issue, Groove records (for all your listening pleasures), Vulture Rock, Donny the Punk & Jim Downs for the photos, Bohdan & Kelli, Phil R. & Frank B., Everyone in NY that bought Ray's records, Jeff M, and all who support us. Carry No Banners is still the best US fanzine.

#### DISCLAIMER:

The views expressed by the interviews contained in this zine are not necessarily those of the staff. Yeah!!!

Thanks again, The Staff

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#### CONTRIBUTORS:

We want you!! Send all letters, artwork, news, photos, etc. to our address

#### PRICE:

\$2.00 per issue (North America)

\$3.00 per issue (Europe)

\$4.00 per issue (Rest of the world)

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**EVANSTON, IL**

**60204 U.S.A.**

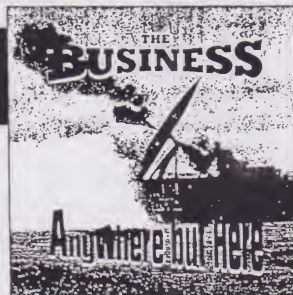
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Bands and record labels send releases for review.

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## NEWS OF THE WORLD

This looks like the start of a bitchin' summer for live music, especially if you live in the east. RED ALERT just did a few shows in NY and NJ. SECTION 5 headed the "United Front" Oi and Ska weekend pt 2. THE BUSINESS will be playing NYC in August. WOW! BLITZ are rumoured to be coming over for a two week tour but no confirmation as we get to press. Ska fans can look forward to the DANCE HALL CRASHERS & HEPCAT on tour in August and Skavooovie pt 2 tour this fall featuring BAD MANNERS & LAUREL AITKEN, plus loads of support acts. There's even talk of MADNESS being a special guest for a couple dates. And rumor has it that the Specials are back together.

YESTERDAY'S HEROES, the Las Vegas Oi-sters will be releasing a CD in the near future. Word is that they've really improved since their first release. Curtis, their singer, left the band, now Aaron the guitarist sings.

Also PATRIOT have their first album, "Cadence From the Street" due out this summer.

STORMWATCH has had a change in personnel with guitarist Don and drummer Matt leaving the band. They are now a 4 piece with a new drummer named D.K. (Dead Kennedys?) Look for their 2nd album this fall on Dim Records

Attention worldwide wreckers, the one and only Psychobilly band finally have a new album out! Yes I'm talking about the THE METEORS. The new album is entitled 'No Surrender'. Some tracks included are: Hell and Damnation, How Mad Is Max, Headhunters, Hell ain't hot enough, and Voodooedo. Also to be released is a 3 track CD single, that contains- Hell Ain't Hot Enough and two previously unreleased extended mixes- Chainsaw Boogie (Fuck politics, Fuck Religion, Dance with a Chain Saw mix) and A Very Handyman (Deviant film mix). Finally coming soon from "In Heaven" studios, is a new solo album from P. Paul Fenech. Remember-Only the Meteors are pure psychobilly-!!!!!!

AGENT BULLDOGG from Sweden have released a CD version of their album "Livstill" now that the vinyl pressing has sold out. They are making plans for their 2nd album as well.

UNITED FRONTS record label "Sta Press" is up and running. First release is a 7in ep by The SUSSED-a new Oi band from Pittsburgh, Pa.

THE OPPRESSED are back! They've been practicing and plan to release a new Lp of cover versions called "We Can Do Anything". No live dates have been planned as yet.

SUB DK is a new skinhead hardcore band from NY featuring Don from THE TEMPLARS on bass and vocals. They have a demo tape out now. So if Hardcore is your cup of tea you'd do well to try and obtain a copy. Write the band c/o Steve, PO Box Shirley, NY USA

While on the subject of Hardcore, Warzone have a new album out called "Old School To New School" out now on Victory Records. (Back to preschool)

Skincore band CRITICAL BREAKDOWN have changed their name to INSULT TO INJURY and have a 7in out titled "Hostile Behavior" available from Vulture Rock Records.

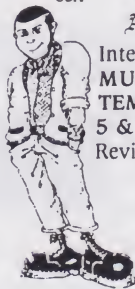
Detroit area Oi boys PIST N BROKE have called it quits. Ben their guitarist told CNB that he hopes to get the band up and running again but doesn't know what will happen at this point. Meanwhile across the river, Windsor, Ontario Oi band THE LAGER LADS have plans for a 7in.

A Man Of Life  
c/o Ray B.  
2857 Kuikiele Pl.  
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Distributors welcome, write for more details.

CONDEMNED 84 have a new drummer named Wayne and plan to do an invite only gig in England this summer.

Theres talk of a new album by the ANTI HEROES on GMM records later this year.

Britains Helen of Oi! records has released a new 10in ep by BRAINDANCE. Other new releases to watch out for are a new single from PRESSURE 28 and finally the debut album by ANOTHER MAN'S POISON.

BATTLE CRY, a new Oi outfit from NY have a 6 song demo tape available for \$2 US , \$3 elsewhere. Write them at PO Box 1360, Stoney Brook, NY 11790 USA

British ska band INTENSIFIED will be releasing their 2nd single soon on their Swing Easy label.

Italian Oi band ASOCIALE have called it quits.

Rumour has it that THE SYSTEM have called it a day as well.

S. Cal punksters D.I. have parted ways with Triple X records. They have signed to a new label called DR. Dream records and a new CD should be out soon.

THE EXPLOITED have a new bass player, an American who used to play for the LA punk outfit DOGMA MUNDISTA.

OI POLLOI have a new guitarist.

BLANK GENERATION have released their debut Lp "Out Of My Head" on Hammer records. Look for a new Lp from SECTION 5 out soon on Hammer as well.

RED ALERT recorded 6 tracks during their stay in the US and there' talk of them doing a split Lp with The TEMPLARS. They also have plans for a 4 song ep to celebrate 15 years as a band.

It's time for the who's who dept.! "A Way of Life" fanzine ran a Japanese scene report written by Masami Toida. He say's that Japanese skins are not racist just patriotic and the skins that listen to Skrewdriver and the like only do so for the music not the ideas. However, in as issue of "Viking" fanzine he goes on to rant against "Niggers" and "Immigrants" and sounds like a Nazi's wet dream! Will the real Masami please stand up.

Also, the "non-political" STRAW DOGS have released a new single on Krowbar records, a white power record label thats released stuff by bands like MAX RESIST and KONKWISTA 88. We were told that this single was supposed to be on Vulture Rock records but they couldn't put it out at the time so it got passed on to Krowbar without knowledge of their political leanings cause it was a new label. Hope that's true!

# SKOINK

Issue #10 on sale now featuring **999** : '77 punk rock heroes telling their life story - **MAROON TOWN** : more than just a band - **GAY SKINHEAD GROUP** : what's this ?! - **THE BUSINESS** : we fought the law and we won! - **THE VARUKERS** : past and present - **ZONA A** : post communism punk rock plus a massive record review section and more.....

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Issue #9 still available featuring Johnny Peebucks & The Swingin' Utters, Red Letter Day, The Magnificent, Headwound, The Scofflaws, Incognito Records, Headache Records,.....



# BRAINDANCE



BRAINDANCE are one of the brightest rising stars of today's punk/oi scene. They have a great street sound that brings back memories of the best the early 80's had to offer. If you haven't gotten your hands on their 2 EP's on Helen of Oi! Records, what are you waiting for? Perry interviewed their singer Sloss in March. Read on.

1) What is your current line-up? History of the band?

We formed in 1990, since then we've had various line-up changes. Our current line-up has been together since April '93: Sloss - vocals/ Shed - bass/ Salty - guitar/ & Robot - drums. We've currently got 2 singles out, "Streets of Violence" & "The Blind Lead the Blind" plus 2 tracks on a comp LP called "Oi! The Next Generation."

2) What are some of your songs about?

Our songs cover a wide range of topics like emotions/ the future/ unemployment/ about mindless crimes against women & children/ bondage & plenty of tongue in cheek humour.

3) Having a skin and 3 punks in your line-up, do you draw a mixture of the 2 at your gigs? Has this caused you any problems?

We seem to get this question from alot of non-British zines for some reason. We do get a mixture of punks & skins at our gigs, but thus far they all just have plenty to drink and enjoy themselves. Maybe it will be different when we play in other countries. We'll have to wait and see. We've got old heads on young shoulders, so we take notice of music and not people's political views which can get in the way.

4) You have released 2 EP's on Helen of Oi records. How did you hook up with that label? Are you pleased with your vinyl output thus far? We sent Bob Borridge of "Helen of Oi!" a demo and he liked it, the rest is history. The singles we've released are in our opinion of good quality with a good roar street sound.

5) How often do you get to play? Is finding gigs a problem?

Finding gigs is always a problem, just lately. We'd play every day if we had the chance.

6) Do you all work? If so, what are your occupations?

Some do, some don't. It all depends on who hasn't been sacked.

7) How do you rate the punk/oi scene in Britain today?

Out of 10 about 6-7, we play with more British punk bands rather than skin/oi bands. We've been booked for gigs with various bands like P-28, Blank Gen, AMP, Boisterous, Elite but due to various reasons, we've only played with Blank Gen and AMP. But we're trying to change that.

8) What do you guys like to do in your spare time?

Drink alot, play computer games, write more songs, play football and stuff like that.

9) Have you received any fanzine coverage up till now?

We've had loads of interviews from countries all over the place like: USA, Canada, Germany, Spain, Austria, France & Britain.

10) Do you follow football at all? If so, who do you support?

We do like football: Rob - Norwich F.C. & England, Salty - Norwich F.C. & England, Sloss - Liverpool F.C. & Scotland. Shed doesn't like football.

11) What would you like to achieve as a band?

To keep plugging away at it, and make as many records as we can. We'd really like to play in Japan & the States.

12) Do you have any band merchandise for sale?

We have 2 singles, "Streets of Violence" and "The Blind Lead the Blind" available from "Helen of Oi!" records. We also have: demo - "Blame It On" - 2.50 pounds + postage

Live Tape 9/9/93 - 2.5 pounds + postage

T-shirts - 6 pounds + postage

English money must be sent as it costs alot over here to exchange \$ for pounds. One pound should cover postage per item. Anyone wanting to write to us should write to:

"Braindance"/ c/o Sloss/ 31 Fitzgerald Rd./ Norwich, Norfolk/ NR12NF, England.

13) You have alot of tattoos, who are some of the artists you've gotten work by? Who are your favorite tattooists?

We've only had tattoos done by British tattooists, Bradford Kenny, Steve (Beir Street), Pins & Needles. We ain't really got a favorite person for tattoos, we just get them done.

14) Anything else you'd like to add?

Cheers for the interview.

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# SONS OF PRIDE

SONS OF PRIDE are a great new Oi band from Montreal. They have a very promising demo out that offers alot more in terms of good musicianship and songwriting skills than many other current Oi outfits. If these guys stay together and keep working at it they have a bright future ahead of them. Anyway, read the interview! (Perry) J.:Jeff P.:Pat

1 - Who's in the band? Would you give us a brief band history?

J.: The line-up is as follows: Besta on bass, Pat on vocals, Jeff on guitars and Gad is on drums. About 4 years ago, Gad and Besta were in a band called M.B.M.F. (More Beer More Fun) with 2 other guys and they murdered Ramones and Agnostic Front tunes. After the guitarist left, they got in touch with me (Jeff) 'cause we all wanted to do things a little more seriously. I came up with the name RIPPING JACKS and it stuck. We eventually had some problems with the singer so he left and we asked Pat, who we'd been friends with for a while (he was a roadie at the R.J. show), if he'd like to join. We ended up having to change our name again, 'cause we played our first show with a very right wing band (who are now completely nazi). The thing is, the show was booked by our first singer, and he knew about their political leanings but never told the rest of the band, so we played in front of a lot of boneheads and we couldn't do anything about it except be really pissed off. Thankfully, there was no riot or even any major trouble but apparently it was enough for clubs in Montreal to put the RIPPING JACKS on their blacklist. We played 2 other gigs as the R.J.'s, one in a school in Repentigny (North-East of Mtl.) and one in a friend's basement. So we decided it would be best to distance ourselves from some sort of bonehead image and we reluctantly "gave up" R.J. for SONS OF PRIDE. Everything is cool now, our following is mostly apolitical/non-racist skins & herberts.

2 - You seem to have a bit of a hardcore influence, how do you feel about HC? To you, is it skinhead music?

J.: We definitely are all into hardcore in a big way. It's what we listened to in our teens, and we've always appreciated the sort of hard, street-level honesty that certain HC bands have to offer, bands in the vein of AGNOSTIC FRONT and the like. As for HC being skinhead music, we think that, in the North American context at least, it would not be realistic to say that a certain type of HC has little to do with the skinhead movement, because it just isn't true. You look at bands like AGNOSTIC FRONT, CRO-MAGS, MURPHY'S LAW and WARZONE among others, and they all have solid skinhead followings. These bands and others have always shown respect to their baldie followings, and the subject matters of their songs often deal with skinhead "topics" like strength, honor, pride, the harsh realities of everyday life, beer, etc. In fact, we think it would not be far-fetched to compare what AGNOSTIC FRONT is and was to North American skins to what SHAM 69 was to skins in Europe. Plus Roger Miret never shit on the A.F. skinhead following, he just distanced himself from the racist element. Loyalty like that was too much to ask from Jimmy Pursey... To sum up, in the same way there is such a thing as skinhead reggae or skinhead rock'n'roll, there also is such a thing as skinhead HC.

3 - What is the skinhead scene like in Montreal? I've heard there's a large Nazi contingent there, is this true? If so, do they cause you problems?

J.: At the moment it is a bit stagnant, but things are looking up with regular ska nights being organized as well as a few ska shows now and again. As for nazis, well I guess you could estimate they represent a little more than half of the baldies in the Montreal area, but those who are genuinely into extreme right-wing politics don't stay skin too long; that's where they learn about it and then get involved in more serious organizations





where it is better to shed the image. Aside from the first R.J. show as we mentioned earlier, we haven't had any problems with boncheads recently although Pat came really close to decking one in the subway about a month ago.

4 - Who are some of your favorite bands?

J.: By categories, it would go something like this:

Ska/Reggae: JUDGE DREAD,  
SCOFFLAWS, BAD  
MANNERS, MADNESS,  
SPECIALS, SKATALITES,  
TOASTERS, BUSTERS,  
LAUREL AITKEN, DESMOND DEKKER, SYMARIP, etc.

Hardcore: AGNOSTIC FRONT, BIOHAZARD, SICK OF IT ALL, SHEER TERROR, MURPHY'S LAW, SLAPSHOT, CRO-MAGS, LIFE OF AGONY, MADBALL, etc.

Oil/punk: BUSINESS, COCKNEY REJECTS, LAST RESORT, 4-SKINS, COCK SPARRER, MENACE, BLITZ, CAMERA SILENS, ANTI-HEROS, BRUISERS, PATRIOT, ANGELIC UPSTARTS, S.L.F., GASSENHAUSER, VAANT LOT, WRETCHED ONES, BOISTEROUS, etc. We're also really impressed by DURANGO 95's ep; it's about time someone got back to basics! Oh yeah, Best is a really big Madonna fan (no, really, he seriously enjoys her music; hey, it takes all sorts...). We could write about a zillion more bands but this is fairly representative.



5 - What do you all do for a living?

J.: Gad studies full time as a computer technician and works part time as a cook at Chi-Chi's. Besta works full time as a cook at Chi-Chi's and is finishing his general collegiate diploma. Pat is earning his high school diploma part time while he trains in Thai boxing; he also gives boxing lessons on a private basis and has applied for a university degree in physical education. I will soon complete my Bachelor's degree in law and I also work part time as a cook at Chi-Chi's. So I guess you could say the band is a "serious hobby" with all of us being so tied up most of the time.

6 - In a couple of your songs you mention crack and gang violence. Are these things a problem in Montreal?

J.: In "Reason To Fight", the reference to crack probably has more to do with stuff I've read about, seen on TV or heard about from other people. I can't say I've witnessed the problem first-hand; we know there are crackhouses in Montreal, but you rarely hear about it in the news. It seems to me that in the States there is a larger focus on drugs from the street than in Canada.

P.: In my neighborhood alot of kids are gang members; we call 'em gangbangers but are not as serious as gangs in L.A. But stabbings and drug dealing are a usual part of their lives. Once in a while a gunshot can be heard, I can remember this kind of stuff going on since my early teens. As for the crack problem, 3 blocks away from my house there were some crackhouses but they've been closed by the cops. There's also a clandestine bar on my street. In the neighborhood where I train there's alot of gang violence, mainly because of shooting galleries and crackhouses. This is why I feel I'm the most concerned about these problems in the band, only 'cause I live in a different kind of neighborhood than the rest of the band. My neighborhood is fucked up 'cause on one block you can have a peaceful working class family and next door there's a crazy drug dealer.

7 - Are all the band members skinheads? What does being a skin mean to you?

J.: I guess we're 3/4 skinheads. Pat and me are skins. Besta qualifies as a herbert, but he knows more about skins than alot of people sporting boots & braces. And Gad used to be a skin but now he's something else and let's just leave it at that. As for what it means to be a skin, I think it's about pride, dedication, being true to yourself. It's having a laugh and having a say ( sorry if

it ain't too original but it's still the truth), standing up for yer mates, your team, your reputation. And of course it wouldn't be complete without beer, sex and good music. Just read the back Oi!Oi! That's Yer Lot and The Oi! of Sex and you'll have an idea.

8 - Do any of you have any tattoos? Who are your favorite artists?

J.: We're all inked, but not heavily (not yet, anyways). Our favorite artists include Reynald (who drew our logo), Guy Atchison, Filip Leu, Mike Perfetto, Elio, Christian and Little Vinnie Meyers, among others.

9 - Have you received any fanzine coverage to date?

J.: Yes. We've appeared as the RIPPING JACKS (w/our old singer) in issue 7 of Skinhead Times as well as done an interview as the SONS OF PRIDE in issue 4 (Nov. 93) of Une Monstre Est En Moi!.

10 - What are your feelings on the separatist movements in Quebec? Do your loyalties lie more with Quebec or with Canada as a whole?

J.: None of us adhere to or condone the Quebec separatist movement. We have weighed the pros and cons and as far as we are concerned, we have more to lose if Quebec separates than if Canada remains united. The main issue is language, and we feel that this is not a sufficient reason for Quebec to separate. Even though we would never abandon our roots, we don't feel the need to enlarge the gap between francophones and anglophones. We are all French-Canadians, we all speak English as well, we have francophone and anglophone friends and we all get along just fine. Hell, alot of the people we know are separatists and there's no problems between us. So why the hell would we want to cut off our link to anglophone Canada? The bottom line is we are all Canadian patriots, we love our country; we don't impose it on others, we just wish people could get over their differences and learn to appreciate or at least deal with the linguistic duality that makes Canada a cool place to live in. There is of course an important political dimension to this debate, but it is obviously much more a power issue as far as the politicians are concerned. I personally think that most of the political leaches involved don't really give a damn (what else is new); to them it's just divide and conquer and who ends up with the most power. We could go on, but this is a very delicate and emotional issue to deal with i so little space that it's impossible to convey to your readers what the big deal is about. You have to live it to truly understand it, and even then it isn't obvious.

11 - There are alot of punks in Montreal, do they get along with the skins? Do the punks support your band?

J.: It depends on how bad the punk smells. Seriously, some punks are really cool; they're usually what we call "Oi! punks" (into Sham, Adicts, etc.), and they tend to support our band. There are of course alot of scummy, freeloading punks that are just asking for a kicking. But all in all I think that skins and punks generally tolerate each other in Montreal (although some punks might disagree with me...).

12 - Do you have any merchandise for sale?

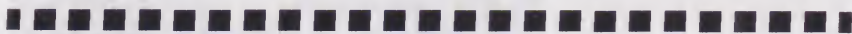
J.: Well, our demo "Strong & Free" is out but it's limited to 100 numbered copies so if you want one you'd better write to us first to make sure we still have some left. We should be getting another batch of demos made up if these clear out fast enough, but it won't be as cool (less songs, black & white sleeves, etc.). Other than that we're working out a deal with Nabisco to get some S.O.P. soda crackers made so you can add some kick to your dinner entrees.

13 - Any last words?

J.: We are looking for some good, non-political Oi!, hardcore or even ska bands to play with in Montreal, so if anyone is interested, write to us. We are also looking for someone to finance a 7" so send us money! Oh yeah, we are all really horny so if there are any skingirls looking for a good time or three, please send your picture, resume and sexy undergarments to: SONS OF PRIDE, C.P. 50527, Brossard, Quebec, J4X 2V7, Canada. Cheers & yahoo!



# FANZINE REVIEWS



## A WAY OF LIFE #2 (English)

The Bruisers, The Mudsharks, Oxblood, The Templars, The Toasters, Section 5, Yesterday's Heroes, Tattoos, Reviews, news, photographs etc. C/O Ray B, 2857 Kuikele Pl, Honolulu, HI 96819 USA

## BRITISH BORN #1 (English)

Condemned 84, Oxblood, Red Alert, Mark Brennan, Red London, Pressure 28, Gary Bushell, reviews, editorials, lots more. \$2 PO Box 253, Oakengates, Telford, Shropshire, TF2 GUH, England

## BRONCO BULLFROG #5 (English)

Mark Brennan, Braindance, The Toasters, Distortion, Eskalator, United Front, The Skunks, Skinheads In Puerto Rico, gig reviews, record reviews, tons of news and more. \$4 to Chuck Wren, 44071/2 Greenview Suite 2W, Chicago, IL 60640, USA or Mark M Brown, Apartado de Correos 1474, 07800, Ibiza (Baleares), Spain

## No ESCAPE #1 (English)

Distortion, Bitter Grin, Anti-Patik, Pist n Broke, Reviews, Nostalgia, Ultraviolence, Comics, the works. There's even an interview with the well hung studs at "Carry No Banners"! That's reason enough to buy it!!!! \$2 or 8 quarters to PO Box 602, Bayshore NY 11706-0660 USA

## OI! REKA #11 (German)

Cock Sparrer, The Business, Kassierer, Skatitions, news, record and gig reviews, and more. PLK 077 717-C, 12043 Berlin, Germany

## PURE IMPACT #18 (English)

The Herbets, Live & Loud Crew, Section 5, Puerto Rican Skins, Andi-Rangerskins, The Pride, Another Mans Poison, Garotos Podres, News, gig and record reviews.(the news and reviews are largely of a right wing nature. Just so you know) \$3 Peter Swillen, M.V. Hongarijelaan 135, 1080 Brussels, Belgium

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## SOS-BOTE #21 (German)

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## TIGHTEN UP #13 (English)

Distortion, Mark Foggo, The Gangsters, Hitchhikers, News, Reviews, etc. 1 shah place, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 7QD England

## UNITED FRONT UPDATE #4 (English)

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# RED ALERT

RED ALERT INTERVIEW PT. 2  
Part 1 appears in United Front Update  
See fanzine section for ordering details



Steve Smith, singer for Red Alert, was interviewed on May 30 by Bohdan (United Front), Penny (Carry No Banners) and Frank (singer with Oxblood). RED ALERT: Steve Smith - vocals, Tony Frater - guitar, Gaz Stuart - bass, Laney - Drums.

F: Judging by the way you look, how do you still feel about the term "skunx"? Do you still feel as strongly about it as you did back in the early 80's?

S: Totally! I strongly believe that skins and punks can be into the same thing and can be at peace. I always have and I always will. I know some people will say "Aah, he's talking shit, there's no way", but it was like that when I was a punk. I've been a punk since '77. I was into the Oi! scene in the early 80's but still felt I was a punk. We have the same mind. We're from the streets, we're against the same things, the government and the police, things like that. I still shave my head. I'll wear a biker jacket one day and a pilot jacket the next. I hope that one day we will all be together.

F: Does it hurt you when skinheads slag you off for the way you dress? Like you're not "skin" enough for them. You told me about some skin in Germany calling you a "hippie skin." Guys that probably weren't around in the early 80's anyway.

S: It hurts us in a way 'cause I know alot more than they do. I was there when it started. But if that's the way they want to think then it's up to them. Punks and skins at one time were united. Then, thanks to certain bands as I said earlier, they were separated. But I see where it can turn back around and come full circle and be back together one day.

F: I'll accept that!

P: How do you see the relationship between punks and skins today? You've toured alot in Europe, do you get a mixture of both at your shows and if so, how do they get along?

S: They normally get along great. But at the same time we've played places where there should be 500 people, and there's only 200 there--like in Germany, and that's only because punks will not come 'cause there's skins there.. It's that people are frightened of skins. They've been told that all skins are right wing. They've been brainwashed in Europe to the point where if they see a skinhead, they think he's against colored people and stuff like that. It's killed bands like us! It really has! I mean, we'll continue to tour and stuff like that, but we know we're never going to fill a big place because of this mentality. Because of this idea that all skinheads are trouble. That's fucking crazy man! Crazy!

B: From an American perspective, though the shows could have been promoted better, (No disrespect to anybody!) How do you feel about the shows you played, and the hospitality of Americans--be it the scene or hanging out? How is it different from other countries you've toured?

S: It's totally different, well, not totally, but compared to Germany, Germany's brilliant. No two ways about that, but the people in Germany--compared...maybe it's because this is our first time over, but the hospitality of the Americans has been fucking brilliant! It has! Every person I've met has been so friendly. Gigs, there could have been more people, but that's no problem for us. I know it must have been for the promoters money-wise, but if there's 5 people there and they're in the mood we'll go on and do a gig that's good...if there's one person there. It would have been nice to do big massive gigs, but the American people have been great! That's what we've been talking about all day---The amount of good people we'll remember when we go back home.



B: Any more questions guys?

S: I've got one---How does it feel to have the biggest dick in America even though your English? It's fuckin' great! HA HA (lots of laughter)

F: How does it feel to have the same shirt that you wore on the cover of your first 7 inch, on your back at this moment?

S: It's a bit worn out, but it still feels good. It's what I like to wear. I don't deliberately wear it, I just love this fuckin' shirt! Whenever I put it on my girl goes "What are you doing with that fucking shirt on? Put a clean one on!" and I go "It is clean"....I've got a joke, Frank's got a big dick! (laughter). I've got another one, I've got a small one.

F: What about Tony?

S: Tony doesn't have a dick. He's a woman (hysterical laughter).

B: Why all the COCKNEY REJECTS covers live?

S: 'Cause all our songs are shit! HA HA. Let me be honest with you. Normally, we do a 20 song set so the covers aren't so obvious. But this time, Laney's only rehearsed a little with us before we came over since he just split with LEATHERFACE. He hasn't had time to learn all the songs we normally do. We've always done "Bad Man", "On The Streets Again" and "Oi! Oi! Oi!" 'cause the REJECTS are Tony's and my favorite band ever.

S: When we come back, we'll do a 1.5 to 2 hour set and won't repeat any songs. Honest!

P: Given the sorry state of popular music today do you think that punk can ever get as strong again as it was in '77 or '81?

S: I think what the Oi! and punk movement need now is a new generation of kids. What we have in England now is all these 16, 15 and 14 year olds into metal like PANTERA and that sort of stuff. But in order to get alot of new kids into Oi! music we need alot of good new Oi! bands, and we haven't got enough at the moment. It needs more exposure as well. I think if alot of kids heard OXBLOOD or THE TEMPLARS they'd think "This is it!" but they don't get to hear them. They hear other music first. We're still a cult type of music but it could be massive if enough people heard it. It can happen, I'm not saying it will, but it could. As for punk, there's a band in England at the moment called SMASH. They're in all the papers in England. I read about them here in NY the other night in Manhattan. I saw them live and they did a 25 minute set! I paid 5 quid to get in and it was fuckin' bollocks! The music was a watered down version of THE BUZZCOCKS. Crap songs--not one stuck in my head. I thought that if they are flying the flag for punk, then punk will never live on.



F: Look at the original punk bands and how they all turned out. That's where bands like you came in---to make up for the first generation.

S: The reason that we're still going now is that we totally believe in what we're doing! Simple as that mate! Like I was telling you earlier---when bands like DISCHARGE and THE EXPLOITED started getting big we thought our music was much better than that! You've got to think that you're the best. I'm not saying we are, but as long as you think that and you're striving to get better, one day you'll get there. We're all in our 30's now and we're still striving to satisfy people. I feel the same way now that I did the first time I got up and sang for RED ALERT. Otherwise, I wouldn't do it. To see people dancing and singing along is the greatest feeling in the world. That makes it all worthwhile.

F: I listened to bands like yours growing up and I wanted to make kids listen to me and inspire them the same as you guys did for me.

S: I've got a brother who is more or less a millionaire now, and he say's "You're 31 and you're still going around in the back of a van." I say you might have money, but you've never experienced what I have being up on stage. I've been make to feel like I am somebody. When people come up to me after a gig and shake my hand and say "man, you were fucking brilliant!" That's the greatest feeling in the world! Money can't buy that feeling. We always say that if one kid leaves our show happy, then we've done our jobs.

You certainly did you job over here! All the smiling faces after your gigs will attest to that. Seeing you guy's live and meeting you in person were two of my best experiences as a skin. Please come back soon!

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## RED ALERT

Live in the USA by Perry

Finally!!! a classic British Oi band visits the US! It's a shame that it took so long. The only other Oi type British group to ever play in the states was the Angelic Upstarts back in 1982 and I couldn't go see them 'cause it was a 21 and up show. Anyway, when I heard that Red Alert was playing the New York area I knew that I had to go. So with my partner in crime "Tommy Gun," I headed out there to witness a bit of history.



Their first show took place on May 26th at the Pipeline in Newark, NJ. The turnout was small, only about 100 people, maybe due to a lack of advertising in the area and the fact that some people had heard it was cancelled. THOSE UNKNOWN from NJ opened up with a tight, powerful Oi/punk sound. I'm not too hyped about their vinyl output thus far, but their live show really impressed me. Good stage presence for a three piece as well. NYC's THE TEMPLARS were up next and they played an excellent set of tuneful Oi originals and covers such as ANTI SOCIALS "New Punks." They have a more powerful sound live than on record and are well on their way to the top of the American Oi! heap. Then it was time for RED ALERT. Unfortunately, it was not to be their night. Their singer Steve lost his voice after the first couple of songs and was out of commission the rest of the night. Guitarist Tony filled in for him as did various members of the crowd. But the band didn't play really well either and it was a disappointing debut.

The next show was a matinee Sat. May 28 at The Bank in NYC. This was expected to be the big show of the 3, but the turnout was still small. Not many more people than The Pipeline show. BATTLE CRY, a young Oi band from Long Island, opened the show in grand fashion with a short but impressive set. You'll be hearing alot about these guys in the future. They have alot of potential. Next up were NY punks THE CASUALTIES. Their look was total UK '82 with Liberty Spikes, Mohicans, studded leather, bondage pants, etc. Their sound was right out of that era too. However, they seem to favor a noisier Chaotic Dischord/Disorder approach instead of a more tuneful sound and the PA made them sound even noisier. One song really stood out "40 oz. Casualty" but the rest didn't go over too well. PATRIOT from North Carolina were on next and played a really killer set. You can tell these guys practice alot. Their sound was super tight and they are probably the most musically talented Oi band in America with THE ANTIHEROES being the only possible exception. Another thing that makes PATRIOT such a good band is the amount of tempo changes in their songs and the fact that they don't all sound the same. Great guys too. I really can't wait to see them again. OXBLOOD from NY had the unenviable task of going on after PATRIOT and they held their own. Their drill press Oi sound got perhaps the best crowd response of the night thus far and they were tight and energetic. Everyone was anxious to see if RED ALERT could put Thursday's debacle behind them and redeem themselves. They did this and more! Considering they're all into their 30's they had the energy of folks half their age and you could feel their conviction. They played a long set of all their classics like, "In Britain," "We've Got The Power," "City Invasion," "You've Got Nothing" as well as a few COCKNEY REJECTS covers like "Oi Oi Oi" and "On The Streets Again." They got the audience going with the punks & skins pogoing up a storm at the front of the stage and singing along. A great gig all around as all the smiling faces after the show indicated.

The Third and final show took place in lovely (yeah right!) Ashbury Park, NJ at the Stone Pony. This was a punk festival with about 12 bands playing. We got there late and hung around outside for a couple of hours so I only saw the last few bands. HEADWOUND were on when I went in and from what I saw they were O.K. working man's punk. THE WRETCHED ONES played next and were really good. I'm really starting to like these guys. Pit is a great frontman. BROKEN HEROES were up next and were the surprise of the trip for me. Great sing-a-long Oi music. Lots of energy and stage presence (which most skin bands could use more of in my opinion) and some really impressive songs, especially "Skinhead Rock'N'Roll." Unfortunately, they had to cut their set short to make way for RED ALERT who were just as brilliant as they were at The Bank except for a couple of complaints. First off, the energy of both band and audience started to dissipate about halfway through the set. Second, playing some of their songs twice didn't help matters and the (almost) a capella version of "If The Kid's Are United" could have been left out. Still, it was a great show and the band seemed to really enjoy their stay in the US. I hope they make it back again soon, as they are really good people as well as being good musicians. Thanks alot to Bohdan and Kelli for putting us up, Phil Templars and Frank Oxblood for organizing everything, all the NY and NJ punks and skins for making us feel welcome and everyone else that we met. Cheers to you all!!!

Perry.

OI! OI! OI!

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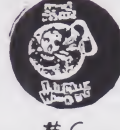
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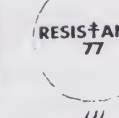
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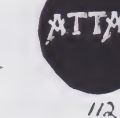
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# **SOUNDS FROM THE STREETS**

## **The Acrylic Tones- Girl 7inch Detour Records**

Three mind blowing songs. The title track "Girl" is flavored in a Beatle-ish pop mod sound, while their instrumental theme "Acrylic Tones" is straight out of a sixties dance club. Great organ. The "Rainbow Song" brings to mind memories of autumn such as sweaters and the changing of leaves. A perfect closing song to complete an excellent ep. The band also pull off some great musical changes that make one feel as if they are riding the "Cup and Saucer" ride at Disney Land. Buy it. (Ray)

## **Another Man's Poison- Howsa Bout That 10 inch Helen of Oi**

Yes! AMP finally got around to putting out an album after 2 great singles and some outstanding tracks on various compilations. This LP is in a 10 inch format instead of the standard 12, and comes in Red, White, Blue, and multi colored vinyl. High quality glossy cover complete with lyric sheet. As for the music just when I thought they couldn't top tracks like 'Skinful' and 'I Spit On My Fist', they come up with gems like "Happiness Is A Loan" and "Stiff Upper Lip"...10 great songs in their now familiar style with lyrics that have a laugh and a say. Sure to be one of the years best. (Perry)

## **The Atomics- Fallen Like Her Angel Count Orlok Music**

I first came across this band at the "Monsters of Rockabilly" gig in Holland, and I've been listening to this band every since. Aside from putting on an intense live performance their studio release is also at full thrust. The Atomics play traditional 50's rockabilly rock n roll accompanied by cool harmonious vocals that switch from soft to rockin' at all the right times. And finally great guitar and bass playing add in making this release a solid package. The CD also has a superb retro cover, that happens to be the design for their t-shirts. A definite winner!!! Po Box 2738, 3000 CS Rotterdam, The Netherlands (Ray)

## **BrainDance- The Blind Lead the Blind 7inch Helen of Oi**

Excellent record by this skunk outfit. All 4 tracks are good hard punk perfectly balanced with a sense of melody. If you liked their first release you'll live this one. "Death Wins" is a particularly gripping track. Typically great Helen of Oi fold out sleeve with some cool photos of the band. Buy or Die! (Perry)

## **Broken Heroes- Media Blowout 7inch Headache**

Ray ripped on their debut ep "Jump for Oi" in these pages last time. I wanted to send him this one as I'm sure he'd agree that its quite an improvement but time won't allow for it. Anyway, this is a decent record. Musically, the songs are tighter, less generic, and benefit from better arrangements though "Skinhead (Not a Politician)" could stand a little reworking. Lyrically, the band have a laugh and a say. On "Why Must The Good Die Young" they manage to do both in the same song. The poor production can't hide the fact that they have some talent and could be a force to contend with if they keep at it, I hope they do. (Perry)

## **The Business- 1980-1981 CD Harry May**

This CD collection brings together all the studio recordings of the original line up of the Business plus 7 live tracks. You get 4 tracks from their very first demo, 2 tracks (Product & Suburban Rebels) that first appeared on the "Carry On Oi" Lp, the bands debut single "Harry May", "National Insurance Blacklist", and bootleg live recording from 1981, and finally 5 tracks the band recorded backing Gary Bushel as The Gonads. Nice sleeve and liner notes. This is a limited edition release of 1,250 copies so move fast if you want a copy. (Perry)



### Capo Regime - Drug Craze 7 inch Helen of Oi

4 fast catchy punk songs by this new band. It's great to see some promising new punk bands springing up both here and in the UK. "Political Broadcast" is the standout track here with its great tempo changes but the other 3 are good too if a bit derivative. High quality fold out sleeve complete with a listing of zines, labels, and distributors that deal in punk and oi music. Recommended. (Perry)

### Close Shave- Attack 7inch Helen of Oi

Hard rocking single by this veteran band with Tosh from Section 5 stepping in on guitar. "Attack" is a really great song. Fast paced music and lyrics condemning all the cowards who can only fight in a gang. "We Hate You" is more sedate but still decent. Good production and mix really enhances the power. Worth a few spins. (Perry)

### Cock Sparrer- Guilty as Charged CD/Lp Blitzcore

First there was the reunion gig back in 1992, it was supposed to be just a one off gig--no more. Yeah right!! Two years later tours in Europe (successful I might add) and various releases, including a greatest hits. No matter how many times and different ways a record label releases the old stuff, nothing will ever come close to "Guilty as Charged". This is the best Lp that Cock Sparrer has ever put out. Oddly enough I never thought I would say that about this particular band. The older stuff was raw, fun, ....punk. The new stuff is all that, but with a feeling of looking back while still going forward. For example the song "Because Your Young" reminds one of all those irresponsible, perhaps stupid things one did as a youth. The case is that when we are older we can look back and have a laugh or a cry. Also in regards to making mistakes, our parents warned us, as we will warn our kids, but the fact remains when your young you don't want to listen to anyone, so you experience life tooth and nail. This epic of an album isn't simply songs, rather each tune is a story in one's life. Songs that stand out....ALL OF THEM!!! (Ray)

### Ray Condo And His Hardrock Goners- Come On CD Fury Records

If I'm not mistaken this is the third release from this rockabilly/chicken bop/do wop/swing/hillbilly/rock n roll band. Oh yeah, they are all of those things. This new album combines an overflow of various styles into one collection. A fitting metaphor would be a rootbeer float. Why? Anyone who makes rootbeer floats knows that you need just the perfect amount of each to achieve a creamy blend. And know matter how hard you try it always seems to bubble over. "Come On" does exactly that. A perfect eclectic mix that refuses to settle. The title track "Come On" is a great sing along road trip song. Next up "Gone with the Wind" includes an awesome hillbilly yoodle, and has nothing to do with the film. No one song is the same. One song is traditional 50's rock n roll, while the next is mean rockabilly that includes a wicked fiddle. This CD is a perfect sample to jump headfirst into an excellent band. Definitely not recommended for the punkabilly folks! (Ray)

### Fight Back for the Rising Sun- Comp Lp Dim

I had high hopes for this Lp when I bought it. I'd heard alot of good things about the quality of Japanese oi music. After a few listenings I'm really wondering what all the fuss is about. First off, the cover reminds me of No Remorse's "New StormTroopers". Hmm? As for the music: Eastern Youth get things off to a good start with 3 powerful hardcore tinged Oi blasts. But it's all downhill from there. Growl Strike is up next plodding their way through 2 melodic but uninspiring tunes. Side 2 leads off with The Cannons who don't do much for me either. Basic 2 chord Oi with little variation. The tracks by Aggro Knuckle and Kabuto are a little better but aren't good enough to keep this ship afloat. This record comes with a printed inner sleeve with a decent drawing on one side and a photo collage of Japanese skins with Celtic Cross necklaces and "Blood & Honour" patches on their jackets. Face it guys you aren't white so get a clue and quit posing. (Perry)

### The Macc Lads- Alehouse Rock CD Hectic House/Dojo

FUCKING RIHHHHHIGHT! Its about time. After two so called greatest hits I was starting to worry. This new release is every thing you like about the Macc Lads; swearing, sex, beer, funny songs, fast catchy music, and new expressions to call people. Musically its the same great Macc Lads sound with Mutley sounding alot more clear. It's always hard to state which are their best songs, but some that stand out for various reasons are as follows: "Turtlehead" (from the ep) refers to a turd that hangs out of ones butt, kind of hard to see for your self I imagine, but what are friends for? "Helen of Fowey"-the title doesn't lead up to it, but this song is about anal sex. Not the kind of butt sex in porn where you could eat a diner out of the person's ass (due to editing and a quick

enema before the scene) instead this song tells the story of pulling your cock out to find a kernel of sweet corn stuck on your dick. That's odd I thought everybody has a yellow growth?

"Frogbashing" is a fuck the French song, while "Gone Fishin'" resembles a U2 type sound, and finally "Dirty Glass" illustrates how the Pogues stole their sound from the Macc Lads. (Ray)

#### **The Most- Debut ep - Detour Records**

The band describes themselves as a combination of 60's beat, Northern soul, ska, 2tone, Small Faces, the Prisoners and of course Paul Weller. And they are exactly correct (maybe minus the Prisoners). To be a little more specific, throw together the Burial, the Riffs, and Skindieep (pre-100 Men), now add some pop guitar and mod vocals- there you have it. The scattered influences make this release easy to groove on. Four songs- "Days Days Days", "Take You There", "Six Fifteen", and "Our Time". This ep is an excellent introduction. (Ray)

#### **The Now- self titled ep - Detour Records**

I believe this is the first release from this outfit, and it turns out to be very interesting indeed. The songs "Fatal Attraction", "Prying Eyes", and "New Direction" seem to be in the early 80's mod sound, while at the same time the vocals remind me of later pop oi bands (mid 80's - to late 80's). The only negative aspect I find regarding this ep is that the band seems to sound a bit held back. They need to energize their sound. Overall good debut! (Ray)

#### **Oxblood/Templars- Split 7 inch - VultureRock**

Just what the doctor ordered. Two of the US's top traditional Oi bands sharing a 7 inch slice of vinyl. The Templars turn in two great songs in their clean melodic style that brings to mind past oi greats like the Strike. "Bovver Boy" being especially good. Oxblood offer up an excellent rough and tumble track called "Working Class Life". It's a real anthem. High quality sleeve with color photos of both bands. Buy this or grow your hair! (Perry)

#### **Patriot- Hooligan Holiday 7inch**

The 3 songs on this self produced ep are fast paced sing along oi tunes in the same vein as their "Crime of the Times" 7inch. I wasn't a big fan of this band at first but they've really grown on me. They sound something like early Blitz with more of a hardcore influence and their musical ability cannot be denied. The lyrics on here are hilarious as well. Good job guys. (Perry)

#### **The Persuaders!- Waiting for the Nowhere Express 7inch - Detour records**

Three songs "Waiting for the Nowhere Express", "Girl", and "The Paperchase" all are in the pop mod fashion. The sound is heavily polished almost too much for my taste. The tune "Girl" is by far the best track which includes great backing vocals. "The Paperchase" seemingly to fall, unfortunately into background music is my least favorite track. And as usual the packaging is up to Detour's high standards. (Ray)

#### **Pist N Broke- A New Day 7inch - Sonic Aggression**

Another record that should have been out along time ago. This contains 4 songs from their cassette. "A New Day", "Ireland", "Skinhead 4 Life", and "Pist N Broke". If you already have the tape there's no point in buying this but if you haven't what are you waiting for? (Perry)

#### **The Pride- Fresh and Burning 7inch - Streetwise**

This band was formerly called the Mushrooms and played straight punk music. They changed their name and style and now they've become an Oi outfit from Belgium. And you know what? It's a good release! Songs of raw power packed Oi helped along by decent production and tight playing. Very impressive for a debut release. Highly recommended. (Perry)

#### **The Prisoners- A Taste of Pink! and The Last Fourfathers CD's - Own-Up records**

I'm not going to review these two CD reissues because everybody already knows that both albums are brilliant. All I will say is that the original vinyl is real hard to find, and in some cases A Taste of Pink-on pink vinyl goes for about \$60 if not more. Out of all the countless releases these two are greatly appreciated and well deserved. Thank you Own-Up records. Nuff said! (Ray)

#### **Red Alert- Beyond the Cut Lp - Nightmare/Knock Out**

If you don't have enough material for a complete album simply rerelease the old stuff, and call it "93 versions". Why? Why? Why? The songs are classics in a lot of oi circles, if somebody wants to hear the old stuff, play the old records. But please don't reissue reworked songs attempting to pass them off as a new album. The side 1 (studio side) is all new songs and very good. "One Flag" starts off, and I said to myself "when did this band become hardcore?" That's not meant in a negative way, it just took me by surprise. Let's summarize the album like this: studio side great, but I want more new songs not old ones re-issued. (Ray)



### **Scarface- Hold Up In Ska City CD**

This is the second self produced CD from this French ska band and it's a good one! The packaging is nothing short of excellence. Great artwork and some top notch snaps of the band. You also get a 12 page booklet with lyrics (in French) to all the songs. As for the music, there's some great songs on here. "Hold Up", "Pas De Chance", "14 Juillet", "Roots Rock" which is a great instrumental. All the songs are good though, which is something I can't say for most contemporary ska releases I've come across. To top it off, the singer is a skinhead! Highly recommended (Perry)

### **SkinnerBox- Tales of the Red CD/Cs Stubbhorn**

NYC's Skinnerbox have been around for a few years now but as far as I know, this is their first album (no it's not-Ray). Unlike their label mates The Insteps, this band plays ska and reggae with a variety of other musical styles like soul and funk thrown in as well. It works on some songs but not on others. These guys are talented musicians but I can't see this release spending too much time in my CD player. (Perry)

### **The Sussed- No Escape 7inch Sta-Press**

Out of nowhere (well actually Pittsburgh) comes the Sussed with quite an impressive debut. This band has been going for quite some time apparently, but is practically unknown outside of their area. Hopefully that will change with this ep. The music has that familiar Oi sound but I can't really think of any bands to compare them to. 'Spirit of Oi' is the standout cut but the other 3 are also decent. (Perry)

### **Total Chaos- Pledge of Defiance LP/CD/CS Epitaph**

Heavy duty punk rock release in the tradition of early 80's British punk like Discharge, the Varukers, and Chaos UK. With song titles like "Fuck the System", "Lives are Squandered", and "Riot City" this might seem generic to some but, the delivery is so convincing and powerful that they leave little doubt about their sincerity. It's great to see some US bands keeping with the Leather, Bristles & Studs tradition. By the way this is their second album and their first for the major independent Epitaph records. Hopefully they can open some doors for other like minded bands. (Perry)

### **The 29 Commandments of Oi! CD Step 1**

This is the first of a series of street punk compilations being compiled by Mark of Bronco Bullfrog Fanzine. You sure get your money's worth music wise. 29 tracks and over 70 minutes worth of music. The bands appearing on here are Spain's Iskanbila, Zona A from Slovakia, The System from the US and Distortion from England. Iskambila give us 6 songs in a traditional oi mold. The problem is they don't do anything that hasn't been done before a million times. They are undoubtedly a talented band but they need to strive for more originality. "Faxista" and "Oi Oi" are both good enough to make me want to hear more from them in the future. Zona A are the best known punk band in their country and they contribute 7 tracks of tuneful street punk that reminds me of the Adicts or Major Accident. Good stuff. The System are up next and they fall into the same trap as Iskanbila. Well played but unoriginal oi. "Urban Riot" is their best offering on here. Distortion bring up the rear, chipping in 10 tracks. Decent music but nothing groundbreaking. The singers voice annoyed me however. Altogether, this is a decent compilation but it's not bound to become a classic. (Perry)

### **The US of Oi- Vol 2 CD GMM**

Its finally out after a long delay and it was worth the wait. 20 songs of pure American Oi well, actually 19 Oi tracks as theres a gangsta rap track by D-Caf & the Fort Knox Crew (give me a fucking break!!- Fuck rap---Ray) I kid you not! Must be some sort of joke on GMM's part. Anyway, a few of the tracks on here have been previously released but don't let that stop you from buying it as previously unreleased cuts like Oxblood "Our Colors", Jack the Lad "I Don't Believe" and The Templars "Running Out of Time" really kick. For me the best songs are supplied by Pist N Broke who gives us "Ireland" and "Dortmunder Union Boys" which is one of the best oi songs I've heard this year. This puts the original US of Oi LP to shame. (Perry)

### **Paul Weller- Hung Up CD single GO!**

If I'm not mistaken, "Wildwood" has only recently been released in the US, which includes an extra CD single. The same songs that appear on the Hung Up single are on the US extra CD. The single includes the title song Hung Up and a live version of Foot of the Mountain. With the song Hung Up, Weller is once again off in another direction, surely one of his most uplifting songs to date. The other song is a transcendent live track that blows away the studio version. First-rate keyboards!!! This track alone could sell the single. (Ray)

### The Wretched Ones- S.T. CD Headache

Finally a full length CD from this NJ oi/punk outfit. If you already like any of their singles, you'll love this CD. Its definitely their most impressive release to date. 16 songs of raw street punk with a mixture of fast/slow tempos and serious/fun topics. Good crisp production really enhances the bands sound and, while there are no classic tracks on here, there's no turkey's in the bunch either. Good Job. (Perry)

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# SECTION 5

1 - Would you please tell us your current line up & a brief history of the band?

Martyn Losee - vocals, guitar / Steve Walker - drums / John Barry - bass. Got some guitars when we were around 19/20, played a few gigs, made a few records, still doing it 10 years later, that's about as brief as I can make it.

2 + 3 - What are your views on the current Oi! scene today? How does it compare with past years? How do the audiences in Europe compare to those in the UK? Any plans to play the US? We've played in Europe a few times, the audiences were brilliant, hundreds of people turn up from miles around, and there's no trouble, whereas in England there's too many people placing too much importance on a band's political stance, regardless of the fact they can hardly play for shit. I've even heard stories just lately of kids out of right wing bands being beaten up by right wing kids for not being right wing enough. So you could say that in England at the moment the scene stinks, but we're working on it. There seems to be a lot happening in the US at the moment judging by some of the letters I've been receiving, even from places like Hawaii and Puerto Rico. As for playing there, we may be playing in Washington DC in June (the 25th I think) we're just waiting for confirmation. If anyone wants to organize anything for us just get in touch. All it costs is the price of 3 airfares & a few beers.

4 - Since two of your members also play in CLOSE SHAVE, are there any conflicts that crop up between the two regarding practice, gigs, etc.?

I'm no longer playing for CLOSE SHAVE, Neil's now playing bass for CONDEMNED 84, Dirk's playing guitar for a band called RAZOR'S EDGE, so there's nothing stopping us, only the fact we must be some of the laziest bastards on Earth.

5 - There has always been a bit of controversy regarding your political stance, even though you've never claimed to be a political band. What are your opinions on this?

Controversy/confusion, the problem is rumour carries more weight than the truth, something which most political organizations seem to be scared shitless about. Take away the profit, then see how committed they are. At the moment, SECTION 5 seem to be getting a lot of stick from left wing comics like "Searchlight" & "Time Out". I could fill a whole page with the rumours, bullshit and out-right lies they've printed about us. Strange thing is I've only ever been called racist by white people. When we started Oi was about truth, freedom, thinking for yourself and not getting ripped off. We still believe in this & so long as there's arseholes trying to pull the wool over people's eyes whilst making a living out of it, I guess we'll still be around to get on their tits.

6 - How do you feel about some of the newer British Oi bands that have sprung up within the last few years?

Well we're getting on a bit and I guess we can't go on forever, so it's great there's younger people carrying on where us "old 'uns" have left off.

7 - What are your views on all the CD re-releases coming out these days? Do you think there's any future for vinyl?

None of us own CD players so there's no point commenting on them, but if you can produce a high quality, reliable and above all cheap method of reproducing music it's bound to have a future whatever it's made out of.

8 - How do you feel about Skinhead Times? Skinzines in general?

I'm not too keen on the politically motivated fanzines, what right have they got to tell me what to do / think / which bands to see, etc. Skinhead Times seems to be one of the best, it presents both sides to an argument and lets you draw your own conclusions. Nothing wrong in thinking for yourself is there??

9 - Are any of you guys football (soccer) fans? If so, what teams do you follow?

Tosh & I support Port Vale, our local side, whereas Steve, (being from Birmingham) supports Birmingham City. They're a bag of shit but it's a free country and I suppose he's entitled to his own opinions, however misguided they may be.

10 - What do you hop to accomplish in the future?  
Everything.

11 - Is there any chance of seeing your first record "We Won't Change" released on CD?  
I doubt it. I've no idea who's got the master tapes or even owns the rights to it. If someone puts up the money we may re-record it, and rename it "Still Not Changed" or something, but in all honesty it was recorded years ago, and we've become much more competent musicians since then, so re-releasing it would be an attempt to cash in, which is not what we're about. I'd also like to point out that the CD's of our old albums were released without our knowledge. We weren't even asked. All I know is someone is making alot of money as we have not and are unlikely to receive a penny from them, so please don't go blaming the extortionately high prices on the band.

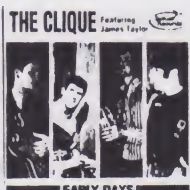
12 - Any last words?

Sorry I can't think of anything profound or meaning to write, except for never give up and fuck them all.

All the best—John.

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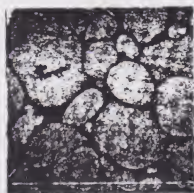
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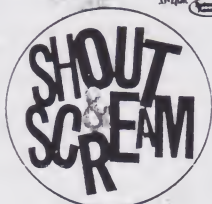
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## HISTORY OF HARDCORE

Is it skinhead music?

by Perry

Not an easy question to answer, especially for American skins. The roots of the American skinhead scene are inescapably tied to Hardcore. It gave the scene a music and a focus at a time when Oi! and Ska barely existed in the USA. When you walked into a Cro-Mags or an Agnostic Front gig in the mid-80's, the club would be packed with skins and punks. The pit was a writhing mass of bald heads, boots and braces. Hardcore, being faster and heavier than Oi! and every bit as street, gave American skinheads a perfect outlet for their anger. In most major US cities, life is cheaper and survival is harder than it is in Europe. That extra urgency can be felt in early Hardcore. The Hardcore bands of most significance to Skinheads originated in NYC, where the two lifestyles were very closely intertwined.

However, every coin has two sides, and from a traditional skinhead perspective, mixing Hardcore and skinheads is the mixing of water and oil; it just doesn't blend. And as the American skinhead movement has forged closer ties with the European skin scene, many skins have abandoned Hardcore for more traditional pastures. So let's take a look at the history of Hardcore, how it evolved (or devolved, according to one's opinion) through the years, and how it helped shape the American skinhead scene.

The first time I remember hearing the term "Hardcore" was in 1981 when Canadian punk band D.O.A. released their second album titled "Hardcore '81." Back then, Hardcore was not a well-defined musical genre. It was just a term applied to punk bands that were harder and faster than the original punk groups of the 70's. Bands like Black Flag, Circle Jerks, Minor Threat and Bad Brains were all considered Hardcore, as were British bands like GBH, Discharge, Disorder and Chaos UK. Baggy shorts, oversized sweats and expensive sneakers were nowhere to be found. Hardcore and Punk were one and the same.

Skinheads were few and far between in the US back then, although punks with short hair or no hair were often called "skinheads." The only Oi band in the US at the time was Iron Cross from Washington DC were led by a skinhead named Sab Grey. Youth Brigade from LA was a punk band strongly influenced by Oi music. The only other band I remember that dressed in British skinhead fashion was the Effigies from Chicago. But they always considered themselves a punk band and were too melodic to be classed as Hardcore.

By 1982, Hardcore was beginning to take on a meaning of its own, especially in cities like Boston, DC, Detroit and New York. Negative Approach from Detroit was the first band to develop a skinhead-hardcore style. They were very much into Oi and even included covers of the 4-Skins' "Chaos" and Blitz' "Never Surrender" in their set. Members of bands like Boston's SSD Control and Ian McKaye, singer with Minor Threat, sported shaved heads, but didn't dress in skinhead fashion. One band that did, however, was Agnostic Front from New York City. Formed in 1982 by guitarist Vinnie Stigma, AF proudly called themselves a skinhead band, and they quickly rose to prominence in the NYC hardcore scene.

By the time AF released their first album "Victim in Pain" in 1984, they had become perhaps the most controversial band in the country, thanks to the punk fanzine Maximum Rock-N-Roll, launching what amounted to a smear campaign against the group. They were accused of being at best rightest reactionaries, and at worst, violent nazis, neither of which was true. However, all the bad publicity didn't break AF. In fact, it helped make them. As singer Roger said about MRR: "Their bad publicity made us very big, just the way bad publicity made the Sex Pistols very big. People

came to our shows out in Ohio to see if we were playing in Brown Shirts. I'm the farthest thing from that!" (Agnostic Front's "Last Warning" CD sleeve, released by Relativity Records, 1993 NYC.

By the time they released their "Cause For Alarm" LP in 1986, they had become one of the biggest Hardcore bands in the country. "Cause For Alarm" was as much a metal record as a hardcore one. In fact, alot of hardcore bands such as the Cro-Mags and DRI were becoming strongly influenced by metal, and alot of heavy metal fans and bands were beginning to reciprocate. As the two styles merged, the "cross-over"age began. To some, cross-over was the worst thing that could have happened to hardcore. Not only was the music becoming increasingly metallized, but so were the audiences. That was good for the bands because they made more money and played to larger crowds, but it signalled the end of an era when punks and skins could call hardcore music their own.

Besides Agnostic Front, several other hardcore bands had strong skinhead followings. The most important were the Cro-Mags, founded by skinhead Harley Flanagan whose

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roots in the NY punk scene date back to 1978, when he at the age of 12, played drums for punk band the Stimulators.

Harley also went on to play bass for the original line-up of Murphy's Law, whose charismatic singer Jimmy Gestapo was also a skinhead at the time. Most closely courting the skinhead scene was Warzone. Their singer Ray was the only one who could possibly claim to be a skin, as any band photo could show you.

The hardcore scene reached its peak in 1988, with all the aforementioned bands at the height of their popularity. New bands, both pure hardcore and cross-over, were springing up all over the place. As the saying goes, what goes up must come down. And, this boom soon started going bust.

The downward spiral hardcore found itself in was caused by several different factors. First off, there was a big increase in gig violence. As the audiences at hardcore shows grew more diverse, tension between different factions increased. Many skinheads and other die-hard fans resented the influx of metal-heads and jocks into the scene and were often happy to greet them with fists and boots.

Oi and Ska were concurrently on the rebound in England, and both styles were, for the first time, gaining a solid foothold in the US. Accordingly, many skinheads started focusing most of their attentions in these directions, and less towards hardcore. The thing that hurt hardcore the most was that it became too interbred. Musically, it became a set style. Metallic chugga-chugga guitar riffs and fast/slow "Mosh" parts became a prerequisite. Fashion-wise, things had changed too. The skin and punk look at shows gave way to a jock-meets-hip-hop look.

Things started running aground for the major NYC hardcore bands too. Roger from AF was sent to jail for 2 years on drug-trafficking charges. The Cro-Mags lost their lead singer John Joseph and alot of their stage presence in the process. They released a disappointing follow-up LP to their debut "The Age of Quarrel" which was a hardcore classic. Warzone abandoned their skinhead image, tried to remake themselves as a hard rock band, failed miserably and broke up.

As the 90's rolled in, hardcore in the US continued to sink deeper into mediocrity.

Despite an occasional shining moment such as AF's explosive return to the scene with the "Que Voice" LP, or the excellent debut LP from fellow New-Yorkers Biohazard, hardcore as a creative voice seems pretty well spent.

I must admit I'm not really in a position to critique today's hardcore scene. My interest in the music basically ended with the 80's. The hardcore stuff that I have heard these days strikes me as being pseudo-speed metal played by guys with short hair and baggy clothes. I definitely don't see today's hardcore scene having much to offer to any sussed skinhead.

In conclusion, I'd like to say that while I may be down on today's hardcore bands with a few exceptions, I feel that the old days should be remembered. Hardcore should be given the respect that it deserves, for it played a big part in the development of the American skinhead movement. That's my opinion, now I'd like to hear yours. Please write in with any thoughts you may have on the subject.

THE END

# templars

1 Is the line up the same?

The Templar line up is the same...for now: Carl on the lead vocals and lead guitar. Phil on the medieval battering rams, and Don on the bass and backing vocals.

2 Have the Templars played many gigs? if so how's the response?

But of course, we played lots of gigs in New York, New Jersey, Boston and Washington DC, and we've played with bands like the Anti Heroes, Pist n Broke, BattleCry, Mephiskapheles, the Insteps, the Scofflaws, the Press, Lager Lads, Stormwatch, the Bruisers and numerous others. As far as the response, it's good...people pogoing like mad at our shows is a good sign.

3 How did the debut 7inch do? Were you guys pleased with Sonic Aggression?

I guess it did alright, we didn't like it...it was too squeaky clean, making it sound too hollow and incomplete. Another problem was it was a rushed job. Unfortunately there is another single coming out from those recordings, that ep will be called "Skinhead Alright". I also didn't like the fact that I had to call to find out that they had repressed our debut, and to see if we could get any royalties that we were promised, usually a good label takes care of that kind of stuff.

4 What songs are on the new split with Oxblood on Vulture Rock?

The new split contains two new songs... "victim" & "bovver boy", Oxblood put only one track on the split project. 1000 singles were pressed, 250 of them on blue vinyl. get your color copy quick,

this ep is not for the weak at heart, and it is a plus for those who like their music to be rough, like Oi should be played.

5 Any other releases planned for the future? Full-length album?

All of these titles will be out in the near future:

one track on the "US of Oi

volume 2" (GMM records)

one track on "American Oi...American Pride" double

7 (spe records)

one track on "Tribute to

SFB" compilation 7 (chump records)

thirteen tracks on "the Return of Jacques de Molay" lp/cd (dim records)

three tracks on "Oi...this is Dynamite!" cd compilation (step one)

five tracks on "Oi...it's a world invasion!" cd compilation (step one)

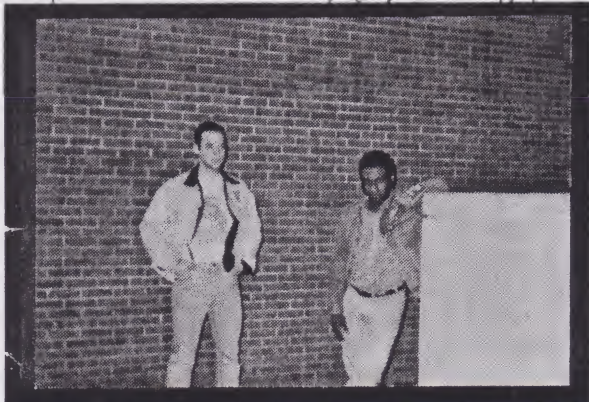
four tracks on "Skinhead Alright" 7 (sonic aggression)

6 Will there ever be Templars t-shirts available?

As far as Templar t-shirts go...they are almost here, we basically have a design ready, probably two sided with some good graphics and artwork on it. Also we plan on making a clothing line for women, you know, templar garter belts, lingerie and maybe we'll make templar bras and panties...only thing though is that the women who want to order must be personally measured and fitted by us of course.

7 This question pertains to Phil, do you find it difficult to drum in two bands or do you just want alot of pictures of yourself on record sleeves?

This question is for me only, thanks man!! I'd have to say it is difficult when both bands are playing one right after the other, but if there is a band or two squeezed in between us it's





alright... and by the way what's wrong with having alot of pictures on record sleeves, you jealous or something? Besides, anything with my face on it is automatically classified as top notch Oi!!!!!!

8 Also, I understand that Phil, Carl and Frank (Oxblood) have started a zine entitled "No Escape"-named after the film. What does the zine attempt to cover, and whats its goals?

Yeah that's right, Carry No Banners' worst nightmare, and how did you know it was named after the film (ha ha just kidding). We try to cover all types of subculture music that has relatively been ignored and trampled on by bad press or has been infiltrated by poseurs. It's not a skin zine, it's a zine for anybody who wants to be informed with news pertaining to their lifestyle, be it punk, skinhead, rude boy, mod, psycho, herbert or whatever you are. We don't review rap & country, and we don't put out high tech glossy covered publications with bullshit information and ass kissing record reviews (Phil, who are we talking about??) that don't tell anyone anything, they give that band good reviews because they are involved in the scene or because they are British or American or whatever, if the music sucks shit it sucks shit, when you give everything a good review not only are you a liar, but your a pussy also and you're betraying your readers, the reviews are supposed to guide and warn your readers about what to get and what not to get. No escape brings you honesty, informative news in the US and abroad, interviews with bands old and new, a contact page for other informative reading materials and top notch records, and an ultraviolence section that reviews violence that usually happens at gigs and on the street. No Escape's sole purpose is to make sure everyone gets as much as possible from the subculture and the music associated with it, that's our fucking goal.

9 Plans for any gigs in Europe?

Red Alert has asked us to do a tour of Europe with them in the Fall, who knows...maybe we'll do it and then again maybe we won't. Anyhow we'll keep you posted.

10 Last words?

Hello to the entire CNB staff, Un Monstre Est En Moi, Zera, AWOL, Vulture Rock, St Publishing, Groovy Peter, Bronco Bullfrog, Tighten Up, and a big fuck yourself to all the stupid bullshit zines... Also hello to all our loyal friends in France, England, Scandinavia, Germany, and the States, all the bands we've played with or kept in contact with...and a special thanks to the Templar Fanatic firm in New York, who has supported us from the beginning, and a moment of silence for lord Hugh de Payens.

The Templars can be contacted for correspondence, axes & spears, No Escape fanzine, merchandise, sexual paraphernalia, groupie information, catapults, drug counseling and record trading at this address...the templar hordes c/o Phil R.

Po Box 602

Bayshore, New York 11706-0660 USA

\*the address on Oi the Gathering is incorrect!



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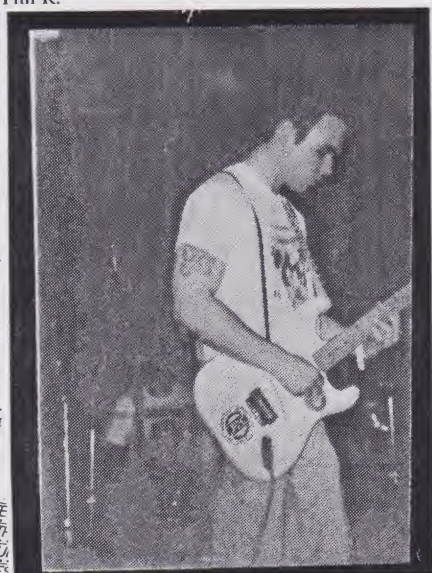
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- Zones & current Ska artists (artists from 1979-1989)
- Mod/Garage bands
- Soul (Tina, Sly, Motown, A&J, Atlantic and more...)
- late seventies Punk (artists like Ultravox, Clash, Ruts, Gerillas, Johnny Moped, Warsaw and slot more)
- early eighties British Power Metal (Witchfinder General, Warfare, Venom, Angelwitch...)



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KIDS  
PETE AND THE REST OF THE BABIES

# UNITED FRONT



1 - Who are all the organizers that comprise UF?

Originally, UF was comprised of a few of us skins stationed at FT. Brass, NC. Being that we came from different cities across the US, that fact made our knowledge seem to help UF off its feet. Me from Cleveland, Curly "Ska Kid" from Minneapolis, Jay "Justic" from Portland and later came Nyle from Brooklyn. After we served our tour in the Army we went our own ways and I carried UF to the point we're at now.

2 - When was UF started? Why did you decide to start the organization?

UF was started about 2.5 years ago. We were getting sick of the skinhead scene in the US. Old school brothers growing their hair out and hanging up their boots because of all the bad press and because of the new jack so-called skins who had no clue about the true movement. We wanted to give skins something to make the movement worthwhile. We wanted a strong family so skins could travel and have brothers and sisters to hang with upon reaching their destination. Basically we wanted to do anything possible to promote the movement. If you've worked with us, you know we have done so and will continue to.

3 - How many members do you have? In which areas of the country is your support strongest?

To get an accurate # of members is near impossible as membership is constantly growing and so many are in the process of joining. Between members and associates well over 2,000. The East Coast is the strongest as far as number-wise, however the West Coast is just recently exploding UF-wise with CA overpowering any other West Coast state.

4 - Has there been any interest in UF from skins in other countries?

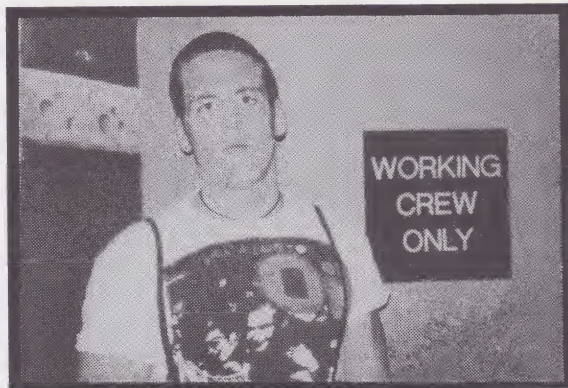
In the last 3 months many other countries! Skins have shown sincere interest in UF and many are trying to start their own "crews" or at least get their friends involved. To name a few: Canada, Poland, England, Germany, Italy and Ireland.

5 - How long have you been a skinhead? What changes have you seen in the skinhead movement since you started out? How would you like to see the cult evolve?

I haven't been a skinhead as long as the older generation but since I was 15 and I'm about to turn 22. When I first started skinheads in my area of Cleveland were all older but the only shows were hardcore shows and so that's where we went. Oi! & Ska music was rare to find unless Rock-A-Rama releases counted. The only skinhead bands that we listened to as far as American music was Agnostic Front, Anti-heros, Warzone, etc. As time went on more skins started finding their roots and the movement started taking a change for the better. That's only in Cleveland 'cause at the time I didn't know that other scenes were better such as NY. Hopefully all the so called skins that claim to be skinheads just because of their left or right wing politics will soon learn their roots and drop the politics and just be skinheads for once.

6 - It seems like the "Oi & Ska weekend" you put on last year was the best and worst of times all rolled up in one weekend. What do you plan on doing differently to make this year's fest better? Last year's fest made my head feel like I was a victim to a boot party. So much confusion and so many problems. However, it was my first large show so lessons were learned and this year's promises to be better. This year everyone is reserving their own rooms, security will actually be present and problem-makers will be looking at the pavement in front of the club face first.





7 - Bohdan, I know you run the day to day operation of UF and you're also putting on gigs in NYC and starting a band and a record label. How much time do you spend on UF related activities? Furthermore, how do you find the time to devote to all these things? Don't forget going to college, working out, work and managing PATRIOT! I spend about 3 hours a day depending on the work and correspondence to be done. The time I invest really puts a damper on my girl, and that's why I put a rock on her finger to hush her up a

while. Just kidding Kelli! Many people ask me "how?" also, but if something is so important to you, you'll find the time!

8 - Since your organization is non political and non racist, have you had any problems with politically motivated skins left or right?

We usually don't have too many problems with extreme right wingers except a few "scary" letters here and there with no return address or name so I get a good laugh. Mostly left wingers and trendy sharpies that think skinhead is nothing but being anti-racist and beating up boneheads. They think we should have rallies and explain to the public the truth about skinhead. The UF truth is who the fuck cares what the public thinks. They'll never understand and we'll look like the idiots they portray us to be, trying to explain.

9 - What do you do for a living?

UF, Sta-Press, Vibram 94, school, sleep, drink, drink, drink - Guinness Stout! Right now I'm an underpaid courier in the city (NYC). Hopefully not for long.

10 - What goals do you want to achieve with United Front in the future?

I'd like to see membership soar higher, promote more bands, have our UF Update full color and on sale on newspaper stands worldwide and figure out more ways to strengthen the movement. Anyone have any ideas besides rallies, feel free to get involved.

11 - Anything else you'd like to add?

Cheers to Perry and CNB, Kelli, All UF supporters, Vibram 94, Frank Oxblood, Phil Templars, Patriot, Jumpstarts & Hate Campaign. See ya at the DC show and The Business show. The first person to bring me a six pack of Guinness Stout gets in free! Also we might be working on a full US tour for Business, if so I'll finally get to meet so many of the cool skins I've corresponded with around this country. Cheers.

**No  
eSCAPE**

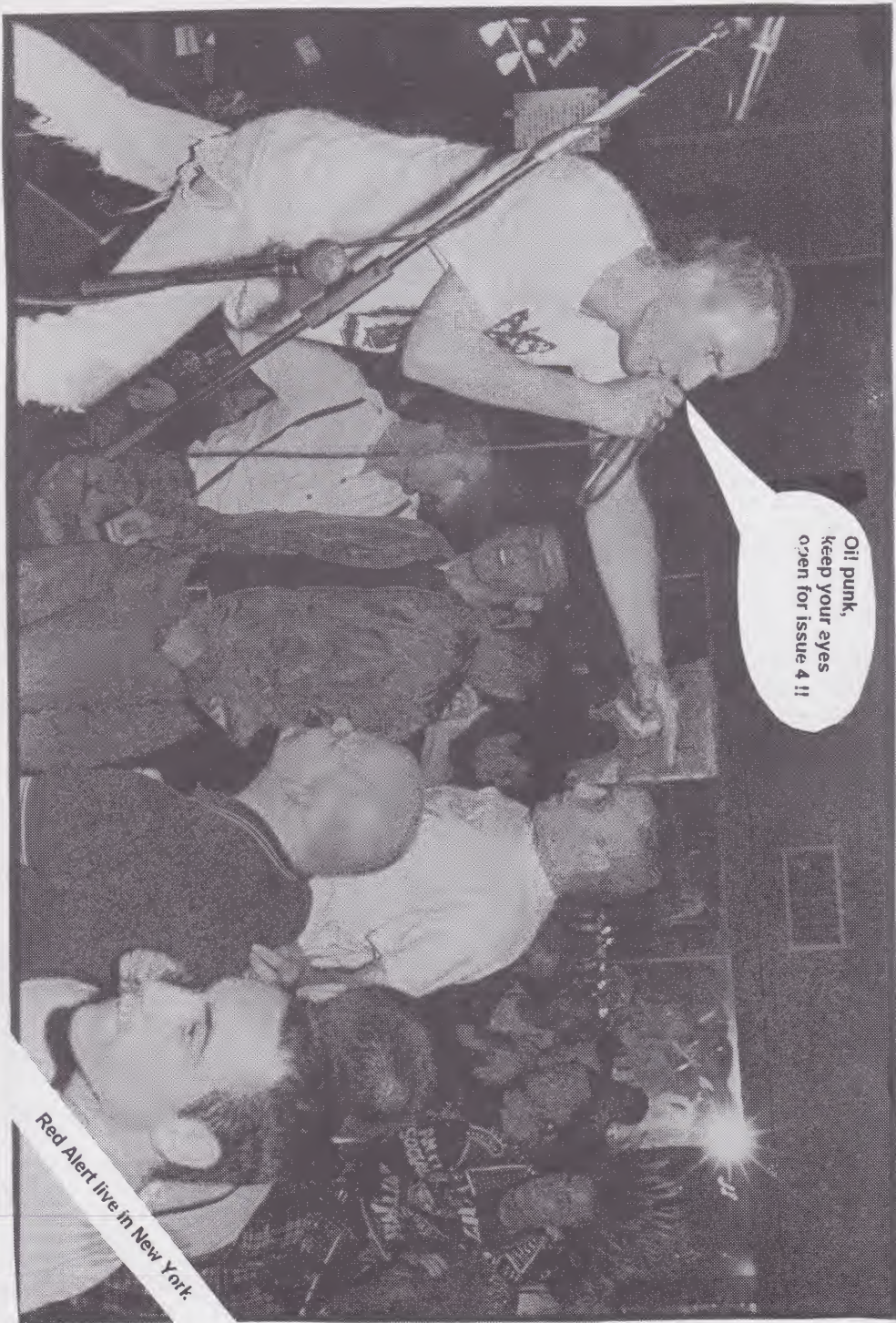
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Oi punk,  
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open for issue 4 !!

Red Alert live in New York.